



Wallace welcomes corps soldiers to second Victory Strike exercise

Victory Corps Warriors,
Welcome to Victory Strike II!

For the next several weeks, we will be totally immersed in the training and refinement of crucial warfighting skills, and the validation of our ability to deploy rapidly.

What makes this year's training exercise unique for our attack aviation, corps command post and supporting arms warriors, is the expanded use of the training grounds here in Poland. It is an unprecedented

opportunity to conduct realistic corps deep operations. It allows us to "train as we intent to fight" for high-intensity conflict.

The interoperability of joint and combined task forces will also play a crucial role in our training during Victory Strike II. In concert, with these task forces, we are able to practice the vital components of 21st-century warfare operations, as we fight against a formidable opposition force.

While we continue to build on the successes of the initial Victory Strike exercise, we will also take this opportunity to showcase our mettle as warriors, or skills as joint and combined warfighters.

Keep it safe! I'll see you on the high ground.

Victory Corps – It will be done!

WILLIAM S. WALLACE
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding



VICTORY STRIKE II EDITION

Victory Strike II soldiers, civilians help save citizens injured in crash

By Bill Roche
V Corps Public Affairs Office

A group of soldiers and civilians participating in Victory Strike II proved the value of training when they helped save the life of a Polish citizen injured in a car accident Sept. 30.

Maj. John Kopp of the U.S. Army Contracting Command Europe was driving with his Polish translator on Highway 175 northwest of the town of Kalisz Pomorski that afternoon when he came upon a gruesome scene. A small orange car was wrapped around a tree by the side of the road. Two young males had been thrown from the car. One was unconscious and bleeding from a head or neck wound; the other was conscious but having difficulty breathing. A third victim was pinned inside the vehicle.

Kopp said to his surprise, several people were standing around at the scene, but no one was aiding the victims. He grabbed his cellular phone, he said, and things began to happen. As he phoned the 212th Military Police desk sergeant at Oleszko, traffic began backing up at the scene. One of those stuck in traffic was U.S. Army Europe contractor employee Jay Ellenberger, who joined Kopp to aid the victims.

Polish emergency rescue units arrived on the scene. They prepared to move the unconscious victim and cut the trapped man from the car. The trapped victim was taken to a local hospital to be treated for a fractured leg.

Meanwhile, the MPs relayed a call to an air ambulance team of the 236th Medical Company at nearby Ziemsko airfield.

Scrambling for their readied Blackhawk air ambulance, the

team was airborne in minutes, said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Daniel Adams, the team's pilot-in-command. Kopp marked a landing zone for the chopper in a roadside field and gave directions to the airfield on his cell phone.

The team put down in a cloud of dust and raced to the accident. When they appeared, said flight medics Staff Sgt. Douglas Schwab and Spc. Jimmy Rasche, everyone -- including the Polish medical team -- "just kinda backed off."

As the 236th medics took over, they found that the unconscious victim had no pulse, Rasche said, and began to perform cardio-pulmonary resuscitation. The patients were rushed onto the chopper just 12 minutes after it set down, Adams said. Twelve minutes later it arrived at the Polish 107th Army Hospital at Walcz, about an hour's drive from the accident scene.

During the flight, Schwab said, the air crew took turns continuing the CPR on the unconscious victim.

At the hospital, both patients were whisked inside, he said, as he and Rasche continued performing CPR. In concert with the hospital staff they soon had the patient's heart beating in a stable rhythm. The two medics were pleasantly stunned.

"It's not too often you get a CPR casualty to come back," Schwab said. "Especially doing it for that long," Rasche added.

The patient survived and was moved to a hospital in Drawsko Pomorski the following morning for further treatment. The third victim remained in Walcz for treatment of pelvic injuries.

Schwab said the incident is what medics work for. "You expect the worst and hope for the best," he said.



Photo by Sgt. Brent Hunt

FAST-FLYING MEDICS: Soldiers of the 236th Medical Company (Air Ambulance) of Landstuhl, Germany (from left to right) 1st Lt. Casey Howard, co-pilot; Staff Sgt. Douglas Schwab, flight medic; Sgt. Brian Beury, crew chief; Spc. Jimmy Rasche, flight medic and Chief Warrant Officer Daniel Adams, pilot-in-command helped to rescue two Polish citizens from a car accident Sept. 30 near Kalisz Pomorski, Poland.

"If they had even tried to ground evacuate the guy, he would've died," Rasche said.

But everyone involved in the incident agreed that speed was only half of the equation. Teamwork and training were the rest.

"The mission...was excellent," said pilot 1st Lt. Casey Howard, "because everyone did exactly what they were supposed to."

"It's sad to think of it as a training event when people are really getting hurt," he added, but these kinds of incidents provide satisfaction and good training.

Kopp said the same.

"All I can say is we followed our training," the major said, "and did what comes as reflex."

"It was great. I was very impressed."



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V Corps engineers refurbish Polish schools

By Spc. Robert Barker

29th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Two platoons from the 130th Engineer Brigade are lending a helping hand to two Polish communities during exercise Victory Strike II by dedicating their time to the refurbishing of a secondary and a primary school near the main exercise area.

The platoon from Company B, 94th Engineer Battalion in Vilseck, Germany, is putting a new roof and internal framing on the Kalisz Pomorski High School, according to the 130th's Capt. Alex Deraney, a V Corps plans officer.

"The main focus is to help the local community," said 2nd Lt. Sarah Sinclair, platoon leader, "and to pay them back for using their land for training. This also trains our soldiers and sharpens their skills in carpentry and masonry."

The Pomerierzyn Primary School is having its roof replaced by a platoon from Grafenwoehr, Germany's 535th Engineer Company. Along with the new roof come approximately 85 new windows.

"The new roof will help protect the school from the rain that was leaking through in the past," said Sinclair, "and the new windows will allow the school to save money on the heating bills."

Approximately 28 soldiers are working on the two schools. The high school should be completed by Monday. Once that job is done,

both teams will work together to complete the primary school, said Sinclair.



Photo by Spc. Robert Barker

Spc. Mito Avery (right) prepares to hand a shingle to Pfc. Shane Keefer (left) and Pvt. Oscar Moreno as they work on the four-story-high roof of Kalisz Pomorski High School.

Air traffic controllers at Ziemsko keep busy skies over Victory Strike II safe

By Sgt. Brent Hunt

V Corps Public Affairs Office

Air traffic controllers from E Company, 58th Aviation Regiment, 12th Aviation Brigade from Grafenwoehr, Germany, are keeping the skies over exercise Victory Strike II safe.

Their base of operations at the Ziemsko airfield is the only one in Poland certified by the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration. During a typical day at Victory Strike II, the air traffic controllers track about 1,500 movements.

"When we got here we were certified by the FAA. We sent up an aircraft and personnel from Fort Rucker tracked the aircraft using our equipment. Department of Defense aircraft are only allowed to fly into airfields that are FAA approved," said Capt. Christina Mizelle, commander.

The soldiers of E Company are playing their part in the exercise by establishing the airfield with two recording points for the 90 aircraft that have been deployed to Victory Strike II. They can track aircraft either visually or by radar.

"When the weather is good the aircraft are tracked visually from the tower," said Staff Sgt. Mark Hess, platoon sergeant.

"When the weather gets bad and the pilots can't see, we are their eyes."



Photo by Sgt. Brent Hunt

Air traffic controllers Sgt. Gabriel Gonzalez (left) and Pfc. James Beeler track aircraft from the Drawsko tower.

News clips

Pakistan's nuclear weapons are secure, said Pakistani president Gen. Pervez Musharraf. Possible U.S. action in Afghanistan won't destabilize the nation, he added.

Investigators' evidence is mounting in Europe of a terrorist network stretching from the Netherlands to Spain, with ties to Osama bin Laden.

Police killed a suspect who attempted "a brazen armed robbery" of a jewelry store in a suburban Los Angeles shopping mall. One other suspect is believed to have escaped. No mall employees or customers were injured.

Police in Colorado said they found a cache of weapons in the home of twin brothers suspected of killing a sheriff's deputy and critically wounding a police officer.

Wall Street ended a dismal third quarter on a high note last week, and the trend could continue if a little help from the Federal Reserve can keep profit-takers at bay.

Sports

Barry Bonds didn't get home run number 70 or get any closer to a slot in post-season play as the San Diego Padres beat the San Francisco Giants 5-4 Sunday on Bubba Trammell's seventh-inning solo homer.

Michael Jordan's third coming has excited basketball fans, but in terms of economic impact, his return to the game looks as underwhelming as the last-place team he will join.

Big things were expected from the Miami Dolphins defense, but they didn't materialize as Kurt Warner threw for 328 yards and four touchdowns to lead the St. Louis Rams to a smashing 42-10 win Sunday.

Weather

Today: Partly cloudy with scattered showers ending late in the day. Low temperatures in the low 50s, highs in the mid- to upper 60s.

Tomorrow: Partly cloudy with low temperatures in the upper 40s, highs in the upper 60s.

(Weather reports are based on an average of forecasts for Berlin, Germany and Warsaw, Poland.)

News Roundup

Ashcroft: more terror attacks may be ahead

Terrorist activity against the United States may increase once it responds to the attacks in New York and Washington, Attorney General John Ashcroft said yesterday.

Ashcroft said there could still be terrorists at large in the U.S., and that there are substantial risks of further attacks. He urged lawmakers to pass anti-terrorist legislation by October 5.

More than 500 people have been detained or arrested by federal authorities,

Ashcroft said, suggesting that some of the individuals arrested were planning additional attacks against the United States. He refused to say if any of those arrested were believed to be directly involved in the Sept. 11 attacks.

Ashcroft's remarks reflect widely held views in the U.S., according to a Time/CNN poll showing four out of five Americans believe another attack on U.S. soil is either "very likely" or "somewhat likely" within a year.

Taliban warns U.S. should 'think again' about attack

The Taliban's supreme leader issued a warning that the U.S. should "think and think again" about attacking his country.

In an interview on Kabul Radio, Mullah Mohammed Omar warned any U.S. attack would fail.

"If you attack us, there will be no difference between you and the Russians," Omar said, referring to Russia's failed 10-year campaign to control Afghanistan.

"We are peace-loving and we hate terrorism. The murder of one person is the same as the murder of all humanity."

Meanwhile, the Taliban said suspected terrorist mastermind Osama bin Laden is

still in Afghanistan, but cannot move around freely. Taliban leaders say their security officials have bin Laden under their control, although his precise location is constantly changing.

In any event, the Taliban's ambassador to Pakistan said Sunday that bin Laden will not be turned over to the United States unconditionally. Mullah Abdul Salam Zaeef said the United States must supply the Taliban with evidence that bin Laden was involved in the September 11 attacks and enter into negotiations before the Taliban will consider turning him over to U.S. officials.

Retired general to fill anti-terrorism position

President George W. Bush plans to name a retired Army general to a new administration post to fight terrorism.

Bush could announce his selection of retired Army Gen. Wayne Downing for the position of deputy national security adviser as early as this week.

A former chief of the U.S. Special Operations Command, Downing is the author of a scathing task force report investigating the June 1996 terrorist attack on the Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia in which 19 members of the U.S. Air Force were killed.